

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

1. – 115. Cancelled.

116. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:  
generating a set of SQL statements to query a first table and a second table, wherein  
the generating uses a relationship between the first table and the second table to  
construct the set of SQL statements, and  
the set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a statement that  
joins the first and second tables;  
querying the first table using the set of SQL statements to produce a result set;  
querying the second table using the set of SQL statements to produce a second result set;  
and  
joining the result set and the second result set to produce a third result set.

117. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 wherein the relationship  
comprises:  
a parent/child relationship between the first and second tables, wherein  
one of the first and second tables is a parent table, and  
if the first table is the parent table, the second table is a child table, and  
if the second table is the parent table, the first table is the child table.

118. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 117 further comprising:  
querying the parent table using the set of SQL statements to produce the result set; and  
using the result set in constructing a second set of SQL statements to query the child  
table, wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second  
statement that joins the second table to another table.

119. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 118 further comprising:

querying the child table using the second set of SQL statements to produce the second result set.

120. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 119 further comprising:  
returning the third result set as a result of the query of the first and second tables.

121. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 118 wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises:  
a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field of  
the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the result set.

122. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 further comprising:  
using the result set in constructing a second set of SQL statements to query the second  
table, wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second  
statement that joins the second table to another table.

123. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 122 further comprising:  
querying the second table using the second set of SQL statements to produce the second  
result set.

124. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 123 further comprising:  
returning the third result set as a result of the query of the first and second tables.

125. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 122 wherein the second set of SQL  
statements comprises:  
a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field of the  
second table equal to a value of a target key field in the result set.

126. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 116 further comprising:  
obtaining a search specification for the query of the first and second tables, wherein  
the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record from at  
least one of the first and second tables if the record satisfies the search  
specification.

127. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 126 further comprising:  
executing the set of SQL statements to produce the third result set; and  
returning the third result set in response to the search specification.

128. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:  
**a processor;**  
**a memory unit coupled to the processor;**  
generating means for generating a set of SQL statements to query a first table and a  
second table, wherein  
the generating means ~~[[use]]~~ **uses** a relationship between the first table and the  
second table to construct the set of SQL statements, and  
the set of SQL statements ~~comprises~~ **comprise** SQL statements other than a  
statement that joins the first and second tables;  
determining means for determining if a parent/child relationship exists between the first  
and second tables;  
first querying means for querying the first table using the set of SQL statements to  
produce a result set;  
second querying means for querying the second table using the set of SQL statements to  
produce a second result set; and  
joining means for joining the result set and the second result set to produce a third result  
set, **wherein**  
**the generating means, the determining means, the first querying means, the**  
**second querying means and the joining means reside in the memory**  
**unit.**

129. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 128 further comprising:  
parent table determining means for determining if one of the first and second tables is a  
table, if the parent/child relationship exists, and configured to indicate  
if the first table is the parent table, that the second table is a child table, and  
if the second table is the parent table, that the first table is the child table, **wherein**  
**the parent table resides in the memory unit.**

130. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 129 further comprising:  
querying means for querying the parent table using the set of SQL statements to produce  
the result set; and  
using means for using the result set in constructing a second set of SQL statements to  
query the child table, wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second  
statement that joins the second table to another table, **and**  
**the querying means and the using means reside in the memory unit.**

131. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 130 wherein  
the second querying means is configured to query the child table using the second set of  
SQL statements to produce the second result set.

132. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 131 further comprising:  
returning means for returning the third result set as a result of the query of the first and  
second tables, **wherein**  
**the returning means resides in the memory unit.**

133. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 130 wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises:  
a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field of  
the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the result set.

134. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 128 further comprising:  
using means for using the result set in constructing a second set of SQL statements to  
query the second table, wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second  
statement that joins the second table to another table, **and**  
**said using means resides in the memory unit.**

135. **(Currently Amended)** The system of claim 128 further comprising:  
obtaining means for obtaining a search specification for the query of the first and second  
tables, wherein

the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record from at least one of the first and second tables if the record satisfies the search specification, and  
said obtaining means resides in the memory unit.

136. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 135 further comprising:  
executing means for executing the set of SQL statements to produce the third result set;  
and  
returning means for returning the third result set in response to the search specification,  
wherein  
said the executing means and the returning means reside in the memory unit.

137. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising:  
generating instructions to generate a set of SQL statements to query a first table and a second table, wherein  
the generating instructions are configured to use a relationship between the first table and the second table, and  
the set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a statement that joins the first and second tables; and  
first querying instructions to query the first table using the set of SQL statements to produce a result set;  
second querying instructions to query the second table using the set of SQL statements to produce a second result set; and  
joining instructions to join the result set and the second result set to produce a third result set[.];  
computer-readable storage medium, wherein the computer program product is encoded in the computer readable storage media.

138. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 137 wherein the relationship comprises:  
a parent/child relationship between the first and second tables, wherein  
one of the first and second tables is a parent table, and

if the first table is the parent table, the second table is a child table, and  
if the second table is the parent table, the first table is the child table.

139. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 138 further comprising:  
querying instructions configured to query the parent table using the set of SQL statements  
to produce the result set; and  
using instructions configured to use the result set in constructing a second set of SQL  
statements to query the child table , wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second  
statement that joins the second table to another table.

140. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 139 wherein  
the second querying instructions are configured to query the child table using the second  
set of SQL statements to produce the second result set.

141. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 140 further  
comprising:  
returning instructions configured to return the third result set as a result of the query of  
the first and second tables.

142. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 139 wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises:

a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field of  
the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the result set.

143. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 137 further  
comprising:  
using instructions configured to use the result set to construct a second set of SQL  
statements to query the second table, wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second  
statement that joins the second table to another table.

144. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 137 further

comprising:

obtaining instructions configured to obtain a search specification for the query of the first and second tables, wherein

the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record from at least one of the first and second tables if the record satisfies the search specification.

145. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 144 further comprising:

executing instructions configured to execute the set of SQL statements to produce the third result set; and

returning instructions configured to return the third result set in response to the search specification.

146. (Previously Presented) A computer system comprising:

a processor to execute instructions; and

a memory to store the instructions, wherein

the memory is coupled to the processor, and

the instructions comprise:

generating instructions configured to generate a set of SQL statements to query a first table and a second table, wherein

the generating instructions use a relationship between a first table and a second table to construct the set of SQL statements, and

the set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a statement that joins the first and second tables,

first querying instructions to query the first table using the set of SQL statements to produce a result set;

second querying instructions to the second table using the set of SQL statements to produce a second result set; and

joining instructions to join the result set and the second result set to produce a third result set.

147. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 146 wherein the relationship comprises:  
a parent/child relationship between the first and second tables, wherein  
    one of the first and second tables is a parent table, and  
    if the first table is the parent table, the second table is a child table, and  
    if the second table is the parent table, the first table is the child table.
148. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 147 wherein the instructions further comprise:  
querying instructions configured to query the parent table using the set of SQL statements  
    to produce the result set; and  
using instructions configured to use the result set in constructing a second set of SQL  
    statements to query the child table, wherein  
    the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second  
        statement that joins the second table to another table.
149. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 148 wherein  
    the second querying instructions are configured to query the child table using the  
        second set of SQL statements to produce the second result set.
150. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 149 wherein the instructions further comprise:  
    returning instructions configured to return the third result set as a result of the  
        query of the first and second tables.
151. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 148 wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises:  
    a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field of  
        the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the result set.

152. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 146 wherein the instructions further comprise:  
using instructions configured to use the result set to construct a second set of SQL statements to query the second table, wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second statement that joins the second table to another table.

153. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 146 wherein the instructions further comprise:  
obtaining instructions configured to obtain a search specification for the query of the first and second tables, wherein  
the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record from at least one of the first and second tables if the record satisfies the search specification.

154. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 154 wherein the instructions further comprise:  
executing instructions configured to execute the set of SQL statements to produce the third result set; and  
returning instructions configured to return the third result set in response to the search specification.

155. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:  
**a processor;**  
**a memory unit coupled to the processor;**  
a generating module configured to generate a set of SQL statements to query a first table and a second table, wherein  
the generating module uses a relationship between a first table and a second table,  
and  
the set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a statement that joins the first and second tables;

a first querying module configured to query the first table using the set of SQL statements to produce a result set;  
a second querying module configured to query the second table using the set of SQL statements to produce a second result set; and  
a joining module configured to join the result set and the second result set to produce a third result set, wherein  
the generating module, the determining module, the first querying module,  
the second querying module and the joining means reside in the  
memory unit.

156. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 155 wherein the relationship comprises:  
a parent/child relationship between the first and second tables, wherein  
one of the first and second tables is a parent table, and if the first table is the parent table, the second table is a child table, and if the second table is the parent table, the first table is the child table, and  
the parent table resides in the memory unit.

157. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 156 further comprising:  
a querying module configured to query the parent table using the set of SQL statements to produce the result set; and  
a using module configured to use the result set in constructing a second set of SQL statements to query the child table, wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second statement that joins the second table to another table, and  
the querying module and the using module reside in the memory unit.

158. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 157 wherein  
the second querying module configured to query the child table using the second set of SQL statements to produce the second result set.

159. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 158 further comprising:  
a returning module configured to return the third result set as a result of the query of the  
first and second tables, wherein  
the returning module resides in the memory unit.

160. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 157 wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises:  
a query statement for selecting a record having a value of a foreign key field of  
the second table equal to a value of a target key field in the result set.

161. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 155 further comprising:  
a using module configured to use the result set to construct a second set of SQL  
statements to query the second table, wherein  
the second set of SQL statements comprises SQL statements other than a second  
statement that joins the second table to another table, and  
said using module resides in the memory unit.

162. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 155 further  
comprising:  
an obtaining module configured to obtain a search specification for the query of the first  
and second tables, wherein  
the set of SQL statements comprises a query statement to select a record from at  
least one of the first and second tables if the record satisfies the search  
specification, and  
said obtaining module resides in the memory unit.

163. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 162 further comprising:  
an executing module configured to execute the set of SQL statements to produce the third result set; and  
a returning module configured to return the third result set in response to the search specification, wherein  
said the executing module and the returning module reside in the memory unit.